

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The final office action of November 3, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto.

Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 22, 27 and 29-34 remain pending in this application.

Claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 22, 27 and 29-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 5,956,034 to Sachs et al. ("Sachs '034") in view of U.S. patent no. 5,463,725 to Henckel et al. ("Henckel"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The action continues to allege that Sachs '034 shows all the elements of independent claims 1, 9 and 33, but for a page number being displayed on the page. To overcome this deficiency, the action relies on Henckel.

Independent claims 1 and 9 each call for, among other features, associating navigational functionality with a page number of an immersive reading page, the page number having a corresponding interactive region, and displaying another immersive reading page of the electronic document in response to the user selecting the interactive region corresponding to the page number of the immersive reading page, wherein the navigational functionality associated with the page number is transparent to the user prior to the user selecting the interactive region corresponding to the page number of the immersive reading page. Independent claim 33 calls for, among features, associating navigational functionality with an element of the immersive reading page, the element having a corresponding interactive region, and displaying another immersive reading page of the electronic document in response to the user selecting the interactive region corresponding to the element of the immersive reading page, wherein the navigational functionality associated with the element is transparent to the user prior to the user selecting the interactive region corresponding to the element of the immersive reading page. To show these features of claims 1, 9 and 33, the action alleges that col. 5, lines 41-52 and Fig. 3A of Sachs '034 describe associating navigation functionality with an element (pointing to hand icons 104 and 106) of an immersive reading page, the element having a corresponding interactive region (pointing to icons 102). The action relies on Henckel to show displaying the page number.

As applicants asserted in the last response, the hand icons 104 and 106 are not elements of an immersive reading page. The action refutes applicants' position as follows: "Applicant argues that the hand icons 104 and 106 of the Sachs's system are not elements of an immersive reading page. However, the Examiner does not agree because the hand icons are located inside the reading page 100 of figure 3A. Because they are located within the reading page, they are considered as the elements of the reading page." *Office Action*, paper no. 25, p. 5.

As defined by applicants in their specification, elements of an immersive reading page are "elements that would appear in a traditional paper book page." *Specification*, p. 3, lines 17-18. These elements include page number, title and content. *Id.*, at lines 15-16. Clearly, the hand icons are not elements that would appear in a traditional paper book page. Importantly, applicants can be their own lexicographer and define terms in the specification. In such instances, applicants' definition dictates the interpretation of the claim term. *Toro Co. v. White Consolidated Indus, Inc.*, 199 F.3d 1295, 1301, 53 USPQ2d. 1065, 1069 (Fed. Cir. 1999); *MPEP* § 2111.02. Applying applicants' definition, it is clear that Sachs '034 merely shows associating navigation functionality with a hand icon, which does not in any manner constitute an element of the immersive reading page as defined in applicants' specification and recited in claims 1, 9 and 33.

Combining Henckel with Sachs '034 as set forth in the action, even if proper, simply adds the display of the page number and does not remedy the defects of Sachs '034. The resulting combination would have included hand icons located proximate to a page number on an electronic reading page, yet the navigation functionality would still have been associated with the hand icons. Moreover, applying the navigation functionality associated with the hand icon would not have been transparent to the user prior to the user selecting the interactive region corresponding to the hand icon. Namely, the hand icon would have provided a visual indication as to the navigation functionality associated with the page number in contrast to the recitation in claims 1, 9 and 33 that the navigation functionality associated with the element of the immersive reading page be transparent to the user prior to the user selecting the interactive region. Eliminating the hand icons as suggested by the action would have been contrary to the very notion of associating navigational functionality with an element of the immersive reading page.

If the hand icon were an element of an immersive reading page, eliminating the hand icon would have been contrary to the invention and also would not have resulted in the invention.

In view of the foregoing, the combination of Sachs '034 and Henckel, even if proper, would not have resulted in the inventions of claims 1, 9 and 33. Claims 4, 12, 22, 27, 29-32 and 34, which ultimately depend from one of claims 1, 9 and 33, are patentable over the applied art for the same reasons as their base claim, and further in view of the novel features recited therein.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

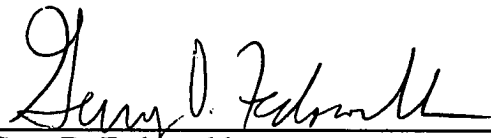
All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: January 3, 2005

By:



Gary D. Fedorchko
Registration No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001
GDF:lab